

MEMORANDUM

To: David Littell, DEP Commissioner, MNRCP Approval Committee Chairman

From: Alexandre Mas, TNC Director of Strategic Partnerships, MNRCP Manager

Re: **2010 Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program Funding Allocations**

The Maine Natural Resources Conservation Program (MNRCP) was created in 2007 to manage the allocation of funds collected by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) through its In Lieu Fee Compensation Program. This voluntary program allows entities that are impacting natural resources, primarily wetlands, to make a payment directly to DEP as an alternative to the traditional mitigation process. Fees collected by DEP are deposited in a Natural Resource Conservation Fund administered by The Nature Conservancy in Maine (TNC). To date, TNC has received a total of \$2,426,293 in resource compensation fees from DEP.

On December 2, 2009 the MNRCP Review Committee was convened by DEP to evaluate 21 full proposals for funding that were received in response to an RFP posted in September 2009. The Review Committee evaluated the proposals for consistency with core program requirements, and ranked all proposals based on the review criteria included in the RFP. They also developed recommendations for grant funding from MNRCP.

On January 4, 2010 the MNRCP Approval Committee was convened by DEP to consider the Review Committee recommendations and to approve the inaugural round of funding from MNRCP. Attached is the resulting list of projects approved to receive funding, and the funding amounts, for your concurrence.

Upon receipt of this signed authorization by the Approval Committee Chairman, and prior to the release of any MNRCP funds, TNC will enter into project agreements with each of the approved project sponsors. The project agreements shall be in general conformance with the sample "Agreement" included as Appendix E to the "IN-LIEU FEE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, THE NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS, and THE NATURE CONSERVANCY" unless otherwise authorized by DEP and the Corps.

Attachment

Concur:



Date:

4 Jan 10

Concur with changes:

Date:

Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program 2010 Funding Allocations

Region	Project	Sponsor	Funds Requested	Funds Awarded
3	Maquoit Bay - Laskey	Maine Coast Heritage Trust	\$100,000.00	\$50,000.00
3	Brookings Bay	Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	\$66,903.00	\$66,903.00
3	Montsweag Brook Restoration Project	The Chewonki Foundation	\$125,000.00	\$75,000.00
3	Pisgah Hill Conservation Area - Hobson	Royal River Conservation Trust	\$20,000.00	
3	Williams Property Acquisition	Harpwell Heritage Land Trust	\$200,000.00	
3	Ocean Point Preserve Acquisition	Boothbay Region Land Trust	\$100,000.00	
4	Blackman Stream Fishway	Atlantic Salmon Federation, Maine Council	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
4	Whitten Hill Project: Sheepscot Headwaters Wildlands	Sheepscot Wellspring Land Alliance	\$175,000.00	\$175,000.00
4	Argyle Wetlands and Deer Wintering Area	Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	\$115,250.00	\$115,250.00
4	Howell Family Trust Wetland Preservation	Howell Family Trust	\$649,480.00	
7	Benjamin Farm	Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00
7	Gervais Property Phragmites Removal	Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	\$6,342.00	\$6,342.00
7	Mount Agamenticus Wetlands	Great Works Regional Land Trust	\$66,300.00	\$66,300.00
7	Falmouth Conservation Corridor	Town of Falmouth	\$72,700.00	\$72,700.00
7	Highpine Phase I	Stantec Consulting	\$300,000.00	
15	Branch Lake	Trust for Public Land	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
15	Clark Island Wetlands Restoration Project	Maine Coastal Habitat Foundation	\$149,000.00	\$107,937.00
16	Northwest River	Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00
16	Maloney	Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	\$167,851.00	\$167,851.00
16	Crooked River - Watkins	Western Foothills Land Trust	\$416,280.00	\$208,000.00
16	Walnut Hill	Three Rivers Land Trust	\$232,950.00	\$162,800.00
Totals			\$3,458,056	\$1,769,083